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PASS TO: ADAMS/BREMER FOR THE SECRETARY

OCTOBER 10, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER
 FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
 SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

MAJOR LANDSLIDE IN THE PANAMA CANAL: AT 11:12 EDT OCTOBER 9 A LANDSLIDE WAS REPORTED AT GAILLARD CUT IN THE PANAMA CANAL APPROXIMATELY TWO MILES NORTH OF PEDRO MIGUEL. FURTHER INVESTIGATION SHOWED THAT A MAJOR LANDSLIDE WAS OCCURRING. AT 0300 EDT THIS MORNING, THE SITUATION WAS CONSIDERED CRITICAL AND TRAFFIC THROUGH THE CHANNEL WAS HALTED. AT 0530 EDT, SURVEY CREWS DETERMINED THAT THE WEST LANE WAS SAFE FOR ONE WAY TRAFFIC. THE SLIDE IS ESTIMATED TO RUN FROM THE EAST BANK TO THE CENTERLINE OF THE 500 FOOT CHANNEL AND AMOUNTS TO 100,000 CUBIC YARDS OF MATERIAL. GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS ARE UNDERWAY TO DETERMINE IF THE SLIDE HAS STABILIZED. EQUIPMENT IS BEING MOVED ON SITE TO BEGIN DREDGING THE CHANNEL. A CALL TO NMCC REVEALED THAT LANDSLIDES OCCUR AT THE CANAL FREQUENTLY, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST MAJOR SLIDE.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

FIXED AND MOBILE SOVIET ICBMS: THE DREW MIDDLETON ARTICLE IN THIS MORNING'S NEW YORK TIMES STATES THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS DEVELOPED A MOBILE ICBM. THE SOVIETS DO INDEED APPEAR TO BE DEVELOPING A MOBILE ICBM.

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THE ARTICLE ALSO STATES THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE BUILT 151 SILOS FOR NEW ICBMS. THE SOVIETS DID START 91 NEW SILOS BEFORE THE SIGNING OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT -- 60 FOR THE SS-X-19, 20 FOR THE SS-X-18, AND 1 FOR LAUNCH CONTROL. THE SOVIETS ARE PRESENTLY CONVERTING OR MODERNIZING OLDER EXISTING SILOS FOR THE NEW ICBMS. THE ONLY NEW SILOS ADDED SINCE THE INTERIM AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN FOR LAUNCH CONTROL NOT FOR MISSILES. THE SOVIETS NOW HAVE 1,389 OPERATIONAL SILO LAUNCHERS AND 184 IN PREPARATION.

TOPICS FOR PAKISTANI PRIME MINISTER'S TALKS WITH YOU: THE PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON SENT ISLAMABAD THE MAIN POINTS HE THOUGHT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE PAKISTANI PRIME MINISTER'S DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU WHEN YOU VISIT PAKISTAN. THE POINTS ARE: SECURITY ASSURANCES BY THE U.S.; LIFTING OF THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST PAKISTAN; AND AID FOR WHEAT AND EDIBLE OILS.

DOS, Navy, OSD Reviews
Completed

BURMESE COMMUNIST OPERATIONS HAVE BEGUN: BURMESE COMMUNIST PARTY (BCP). No Objection to Declassification in Part 2010/10/22 : LOC-HAK-550-1-64-9
MASSING NORTH AND EAST OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER OF KENG TUNG, NEAR THE BORDER OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PRC). DURING THE LAST DRY SEASON BCP UNITS TRIED TO CAPTURE THE TOWN, BUT FAILED. EFFORTS TO ISOLATE THE TOWN HAVE ALREADY BEGUN WITH THE HARASSMENT OF TRAFFIC ALONG ROUTE 4, THE MAIN ROAD LINK BETWEEN KENG TUNG AND THE REST OF BURMA. NEVERTHELESS, BURMESE GOVERNMENT FORCES ARE EXPECTED TO HOLD THEIR OWN, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE PRC'S DECISION TO REDUCE ITS PERSONNEL SUPPORT TO THE BCPP.

ETHIOPIAN MILITARY CONTINUE TO ARREST OPPosition: THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY COUNCIL (PMC) ANNOUNCED THE ARREST OF 21 MORE CIVILIAN NOTABLES YESTERDAY, SWELLING THE NUMBER OF ALLEGED OPPONENTS TO THE REVOLUTION UNDER DETENTION TO SOME 250. NO VIOLENCE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ARRESTS, AND ADDIS ABABA REMAINS CALM UNDER A CURFEW. MORE ARRESTS IN THE CAPITAL ARE EXPECTED THIS WEEK. ELSEWHERE IN THE COUNTRY, POLICE REPORTEDLY ARRESTED 220 STUDENTS AND ADMINISTRATORS OF AN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AT HARAR IN EASTERN ETHIOPIA ON OCTOBER 7 AND 8. THE EXACT REASONS FOR THE ARRESTS ARE AS YET UNCLEAR BUT ARE PROBABLY LOCAL IN NATURE.

FRANCE MAY PARTICIPATE IN SAUDI NUCLEAR PROJECTS: REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FRENCH COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE (CNERGAI) ARE VISITING SAUDI ARABIA TO DISCUSS SAUDI PLANS FOR A NUCLEAR RESEARCH CENTER, URANIUM PROSPECTING, AND WATER DESALINIZATION. PREVIOUSLY, INFORMATION OF MARCH AND JUNE HAD INDICATED THAT SAUDI ARABIA WAS CONSIDERING CO-OPERATING WITH A SWISS FIRM ON A "MICRO-EXPLOSION NUCLEAR REACTOR PROGRAM."

TU-95S CONDUCT NORTH PACIFIC FLIGHT: ON OCTOBER 9 AND 10, TWO TU-95 AIRCRAFT FROM KHOROL EAST CONDUCTED FLIGHTS OVER THE NORTH PACIFIC IN AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO RECONNOITER THE USS ENTERPRISE. THE AIRCRAFT REPORTEDLY FLEW AT ALTITUDES BETWEEN 10,000 AND 30,000 FEET AND AT A SPEED OF 10 KNOTS. ALTHOUGH UNSUCCESSFUL IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO RECONNOITER THE ENTERPRISE, THESE AIRCRAFT DID CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE OF THE US KNOW, WHIPPLE, COCHRANE, RATHBURN, AND GUADALUPE.

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